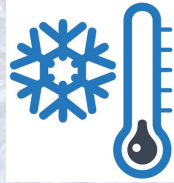


# #Protect Your Pipes

When temperatures drop, water pipes can be vulnerable to freezing. Use these tips to help you prepare for the weather and prevent costly damage:



- Seal any gaps in your foundation or walls to prevent drafts around pipes. Insulate any exposed pipes.
- Disconnect garden hoses and put insulated covers over outdoor faucets.
- Leave under-sink cabinets open on cold nights to allow warm air to circulate around pipes.
- During freeze warnings, let a thin stream of water (pencil tip size) run from the faucet.
- Make sure everyone in the household knows how to find and use the main water shutoff valve.
- If you have a pipe freeze, turn off the main water shutoff before attempting to thaw it. Never use an open flame to thaw a pipe.
- If the pipe appears damaged in any way, turn off the main water shutoff and call a licensed plumber.



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